

CLAIMS

1. An endless conveyor belt for an air conditioning plant, in which the conveyor belt extends helically along part of its length, comprising transverse rods (4) and lateral elements (3), characterised in that the lateral elements (3) are connected in pairs to only two rods (4), which are fixedly connected to said lateral elements (3) and form, with these, a link means (2), and adjoining link means (2) are articulated to each other by a coupling element (5) which is arranged therebetween and connected to neighbouring rods (4) of the adjoining link means (2).
2. A conveyor as claimed in claim 1, in which each of the adjoining link means (2) is articulated to the coupling element (5) arranged therebetween, for turning about two mutually perpendicular axes (12, 13) which are perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the conveyor belt.
3. A conveyor belt as claimed in claim 1 or 2, in which adjoining link means (2) are, by means of said coupling elements (5), mutually movable in the longitudinal direction of the conveyor belt.
4. A conveyor belt as claimed in claim 3, in which the coupling element (5) is designed so that the neighbouring rods (4) of the adjoining link means (2), in an expanded state, are arranged at a distance from each other that corresponds to the distance between the two rods (4) of the respective link means (2).
5. A conveyor belt as claimed in claim 3 or 4, in which the lateral elements (4) of each link means (2) overlap the lateral elements (3) of an adjoining link means (2) in an expanded state of the conveyor belt.

6. A conveyor belt as claimed in claim 5, in which each link means (2) has a front portion (10) which is complementarily formed to a rear portion (10) of an adjoining link means (2) to allow mutually overlapping bringing together of the link means (2).

7. A conveyor belt as claimed in claim 5 or 6, in which the lateral elements (3) of each link means (2) have a centrally extended shoulder (15) to form a front portion (10) and a rear portion (9) of the link means (2).

8. A conveyor belt as claimed in claim 7, in which the rods (4) of each link means (2) connect to the respective lateral elements (3) on the associated side of said shoulder (15).

9. A conveyor belt as claimed in any one of claims 1-4, in which adjoining link means (2) are capable of being brought together without overlap, and the coupling element (5) which connects said link means (2) to each other comprises two coupling means (6) which are each arranged at a respective longitudinal lateral edge (7) of the conveyor belt (1), each coupling means (6) having a protruding flange (20) which fills up a gap between the respective lateral elements (3) of the adjoining link means (2) when being moved away from each other.

10. A conveyor belt as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which elongate holes (8) are formed in the coupling element (5) to receive said neighbouring rods (4) of the adjoining link means (2).

11. A conveyor belt as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the coupling element (5) comprises two coupling means (6) which are each arranged at a respective longitudinal lateral edge (7) of the conveyor belt.

12. A conveyor belt as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which a first lateral element (3) of each link means (2) forms a spacer for supporting a

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superposed turn of the conveyor belt when extending helically in said air conditioning plant.

13. A conveyor belt as claimed in claim 11, in which also a second lateral element (3) of each link means (2) forms a spacer.

14. A conveyor belt as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the rods (4) of the conveyor belt support a wire mesh (14) for forming a load-carrying surface of the conveyor belt.

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